

*Physical Disabilities
Through the Lifespan*



Secondary Conditions

July 22, 2003



State of the Field

- Specific physical & psychological 2^o conditions are associated with disabling conditions
- Although same condition may occur in able-bodied, it may have a unique impact in PWD
- Secondary conditions may result from 1^o disability directly, functional limitations, or treatments
- 2^o conditions occur earlier and more severely in PWD



Problems/Concerns/Issues

- Need to educate clinicians and consumers
- Lack interventions and standards of care
- Diagnosis, measurement, assessment issues
- Physiological progression of 2^o conditions
- Physical barriers and psychosocial issues in diagnosis and treatment
- Lack longitudinal data on onset and treatment, especially studies involving children & elderly



Research Priorities

- Causes, mechanisms, and predictors of 2^o conditions, and development of models
- Promote treatment and interventions: drugs, behavioral/social, nutritional, exercise, etc
- Outcomes of treatment on activity, participation, QOL, and policy/reimbursement
- Understanding interaction of PWD with environment to promote compliance and self-management
- Infrastructure for multisite, longitudinal studies